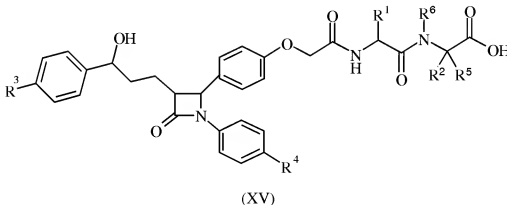


In the Claims:

The current status of all claims is listed below and supercedes all previous lists of claims.

Please cancel claim 18 without prejudice to its presentation in another application, amend claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19, and 20, and add new claims 21-28 as follows.

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (XV):



wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R² and R⁵ are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, aryl C₁₋₆alkoxy, (C₁-C₄)₃Si, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, aryl or arylC₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R³ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C₁₋₆alkoxy or C₁₋₆alkylS-;

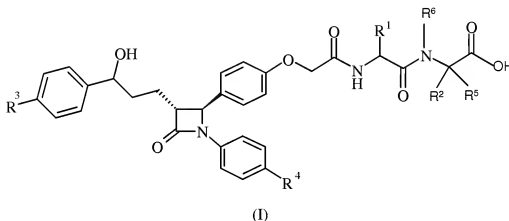
R⁴ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, halo or C₁₋₆alkoxy; and

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

2. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^2 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy, $(C_{1-4})_3Si$, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$, wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6} alkoxy; and

R⁶ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, or arylC₁₋₆ alkyl;

wherein R⁵ and R² may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R⁶ and R² may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

3. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, phenyl or a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein:

R² is hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, acylamino, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halo or methoxy C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy or cyano.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein:

R³ is hydrogen, halo, methyl or ethyl; wherein said methyl or ethyl may be optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkoxy, halo or methoxy.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein:

R³ is hydrogen, methyl, chlorine, fluorine, C₁₋₆ alkylS-, or methoxy.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein:

R⁴ is hydrogen or halo.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,

wherein:

R^4 is chlorine or fluorine.

9. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein:

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl or R^6 and R^2 form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms.

10. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein:

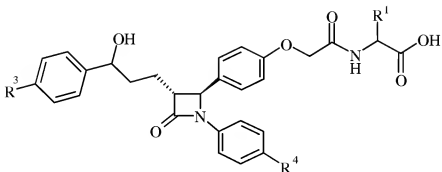
R^1 is hydrogen;

R^2 is a branched or unbranched C_{1-4} alkyl, optionally substituted by a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, alkylS-, aryl optionally substituted by hydroxy or cyano, amino, N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)₂amino or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O)_a, wherein a is ~~0-2~~ 0-2;

R^3 and R^4 are halo; and

R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

11. (currently amended) A compound of the formula (VI):



wherein:

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)₂amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^2 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy, $(C_{1-4})_2Si$, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)₂amino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) _{n} , or C_{1-6} alkylS(O) _{n} , wherein n is 0-2; C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-; and

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^7 is an hydroxy group or a C_{1-3} alkoxy group;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

12. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing ~~hyperlipidemic conditions~~ a hyperlipidemic condition comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof.

13. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing atherosclerosis comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof.

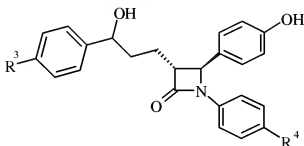
14. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing Alzheimers' disease comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof.

15. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing ~~cholesterol-associated tumors~~ a cholesterol associated tumor comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof.

16. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent and/or carrier.

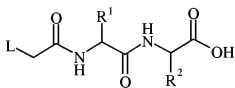
17. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound ~~of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof which process (wherein variable groups are, unless otherwise specified, as defined in formula (I))~~ comprising:

~~Process 1)~~ a) reacting a compound of formula (II):



(II)

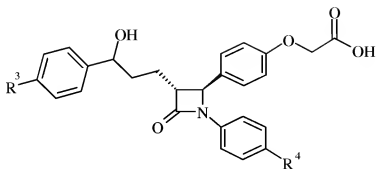
with a compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein L is a displaceable group;

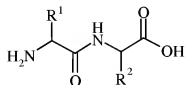
~~Process 2~~) b) reacting an acid of formula (IV):



(IV)

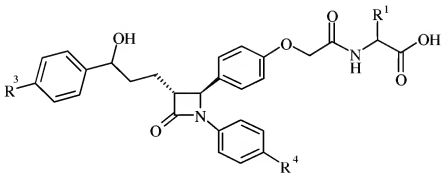
or an activated derivative thereof;

with an amine of formula (V):



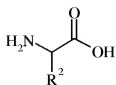
(V)

~~Process 3~~) c) reacting an acid of formula (VI):



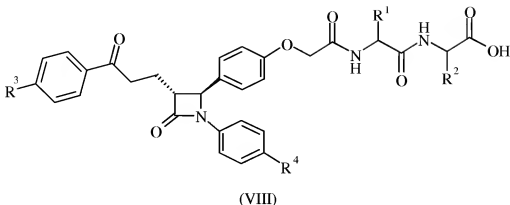
(VI)

or an activated derivative thereof, with an amine of formula (VII):

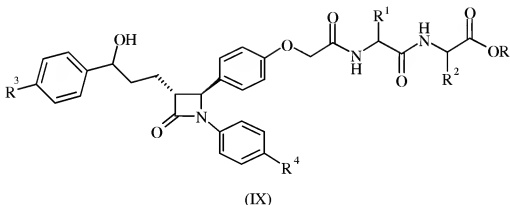


(VII)

Process 4): d) reducing a compound of formula (VIII):



Process 5): or c) De-esterifying a compound of formula (IX)



wherein the group C(O)OR is an ester group; and

wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R² is hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, aryl C₁₋₆alkoxy, (C₁₋₄)₃Si, N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is

0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R³ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C₁₋₆alkoxy or C₁₋₆alkylS-;

R⁴ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, halo or C₁₋₆alkoxy; and

L is a displaceable group;

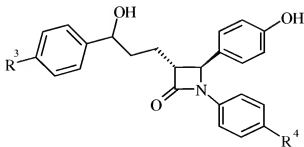
and thereafter if necessary or desirable optionally:

- i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I);
- ii) removing any protecting groups;
- iii) forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug; or
- iv) separating two or more enantiomers.

~~L is a displaceable group, suitable values for L are for example, a halogeno or sulphonyloxy group, for example a chloro, bromo, methanesulphonyloxy or toluene 4 sulphonyloxy group. C(O)OR is an ester group, suitable values for C(O)OR are methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, t-butoxycarbonyl and benzyloxycarbonyl.~~

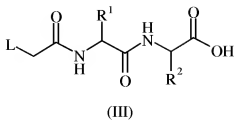
18. (cancelled) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof which process (wherein variable groups are, unless otherwise specified, as defined in formula (I)) comprises of:

Process 1) reacting a compound of formula (II):



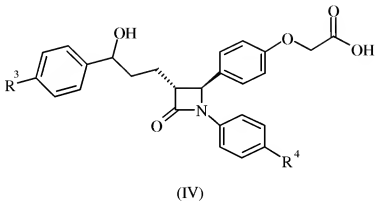
(II)

with a compound of formula (III):

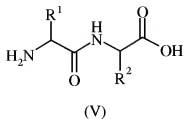


wherein L is a displaceable group;

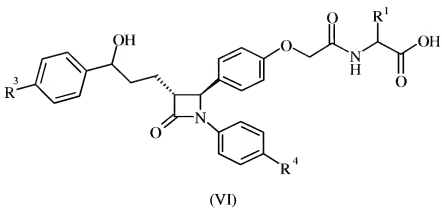
Process 2) reacting an acid of formula (IV):



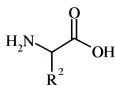
or an activated derivative thereof; with an amine of formula (V):



Process 3): reacting an acid of formula (VI):

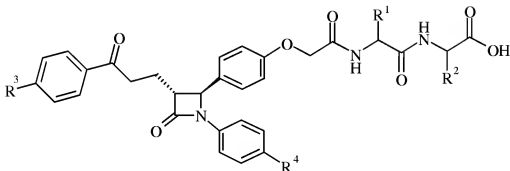


or an activated derivative thereof, with an amine of formula (VII):



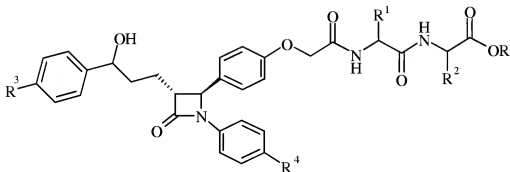
(VII)

Process 4): reducing a compound of formula (VIII):



(VIII)

Process 5): De-esterifying a compound of formula (IX)



(IX)

wherein the group C(O)OR is an ester group;

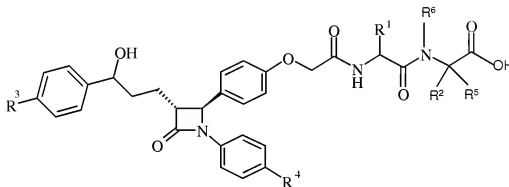
and thereafter if necessary or desirable:

- i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I);
- ii) removing any protecting groups;
- iii) forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug; or
- iv) separating two or more enantiomers.

L is a displaceable group, suitable values for L are for example, a halogeno or sulphonyloxy group, for example a chloro, bromo, methanesulphonyloxy or toluene-4-sulphonyloxy group.

C(O)OR is an ester group, suitable values for C(O)OR are methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *t*-butoxycarbonyl and benzyloxycarbonyl.

19. (currently amended) A combination of a compound according to formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, wherein a is 0-2, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R² and R⁵ are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, aryl C₁₋₆alkoxy, (C₁₋₄)₃Si, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

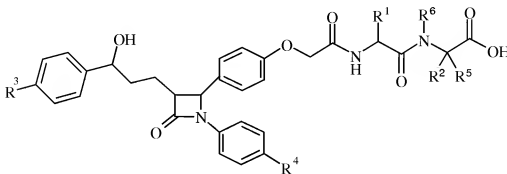
R³ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C₁₋₆alkoxy or C₁₋₆alkylS-;

R⁴ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, halo or C₁₋₆alkoxy; and

R⁶ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, or arylC₁₋₆alkyl;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or according to formula (XV)



(XV)

wherein:

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^2 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy, $(C_{1-6}C_3)Si$, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS;

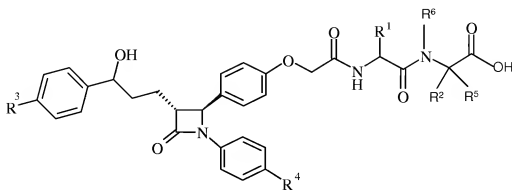
R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6} alkoxy; and

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

with a PPAR alpha and/or gamma agonist.

20. (currently amended) A combination of a compound according to formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

R^2 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy, (C_{1-3}) $_3$ Si, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy;

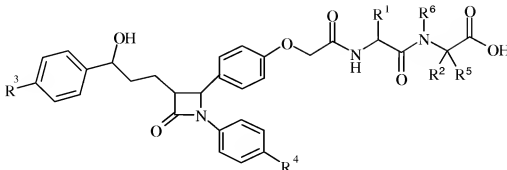
R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6} alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6} alkoxy; and

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or according to formula (XV)



(XV)

wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R² and R⁵ are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy, aryl C₁₋₆alkoxy, (C₁₋₃)₃Si, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, aryl or arylC₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R³ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C₁₋₆alkoxy or C₁₋₆alkylS-;

R⁴ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, halo or C₁₋₆alkoxy; and

R⁶ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, or arylC₁₋₆alkyl;

wherein R⁵ and R² may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R⁶ and R² may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

with an HMG Co-A reductase inhibitor.

21. (new) A method of treating or preventing a hyperlipidemic condition comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to claim 11 to a mammal in need thereof.
22. (new) A method of treating or preventing atherosclerosis comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to claim 11 to a mammal in need thereof.
23. (new) A method for treating or preventing Alzheimers' disease comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to claim 11 to a mammal in need thereof.
24. (new) A method for treating or preventing a cholesterol associated tumor comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to claim 11 to a mammal in need thereof.
25. (new) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 11 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent and/or carrier.
26. (new) A process according to claim 17 wherein L is a halogen or sulphonyloxy group.
27. (new) A process according to claim 26 wherein L is a chloro, bromo, methanesulphonyloxy or toluene-4-sulphonyloxy group.
28. (new) A process according to claim 17 wherein the C(O)OR ester group is methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *t*-butoxycarbonyl, or benzyloxycarbonyl.